

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3877

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012

SOFT AND ENERGY DRINKS

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**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of various studies which state that consumption of soft and energy drinks leads to various health ailments including heart diseases among the people, particularly children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the standards and regulations laid down in respect of soft and energy drinks in the country;
- (c) whether non-adherence to these standards and regulations and sale of adulterated soft and energy drinks with high level of caffeine, insecticides and pesticides have been reported across the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year so far; and
- (e) the measures taken/proposed by the Government for proper compliance of the above standards and regulations and spread awareness about the ill effects of consumption of soft and energy drinks?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b): There are limited number of studies available predominantly from Western World regarding impact of soft and energy drinks on human health, particularly children. These studies mainly focus on the effect of carbonated water on dental health, calorie intake/body weight, bone health, nutrient intake and other health problems like metabolic syndrome, cancer, fertility, etc. The National Institute of Nutrition, Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR), Hyderabad has also undertaken a longitudinal observational study entitled "Consumption of carbonated water beverages and its ill effects on health of adolescent and young adults".

The standards of carbonated water have been prescribed under Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has initiated necessary action to fix standards for energy drinks.

(c) & (d): No incidence has been reported/ noticed regarding high level of pesticide residue/ caffeine in carbonated water.

(e): The Government has initiated various steps like conducting awareness programmes and publicity through print and electronic media about Food Safety and Standards Act, Rules and Regulations, capacity building programme regarding the implementation and regulatory functions for Designated Officer, Authorized Officers, Adjudicating Officers, Food Safety Officer and Food business operators etc.